

PREFACE

The fourth volume of *Himalayan Plants* contains three articles. The first and second articles are results of systematic studies of *Juncus* and Euphorbiaceae, and the third one is the fourth series of papers of wood structure of 35 Himalayan wood species. For the first two we expect their works to become a consensus for further researches of the diversity of *Juncus* and Euphorbiaceae in the Himalaya and adjacent regions. Description of wood structures not only becomes an addition to the atlas of the Himalayan woods, totally attaining 193 species, and also reveals their phylogenetic and ecological diversity in the Himalayan region.

All four volumes were dedicated to publish the results of botanical researches in the Himalaya and adjacent regions, i.e. Pakistan, India, and China including Tibet since 1983. The main purpose of the researches is to resolve the regional diversity of extremely diversified taxonomic groups in the Himalaya and adjacent regions, such as *Saxifraga*, *Pedicularis*, and *Impatiens*. Revisional papers of these and also some other groups were included. Our research activities have spread out to meteorology of the Himalaya alpine region, geobotany particularly relations between the occurrence of plants and the microscale landform, and cytology. Some articles in these subjects were also included in this series.

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